

Dear Commissioners:

Stop hidden phone fees so I can truly compare prices of phone services. I support the petition filed by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and endorsed by other consumer advocacy organizations. CG Docket No. 04-208, Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Truth-In-Billing and Billing Format, is long overdue.

Phone bills should be truthful and easy to understand. I am definitely getting rid of my "land line" because the fees are the same as extortion as far as I can tell. The "excise tax" was supposed to pay for the Spanish-American War. How long do we have to pay for this? It's ridiculous and I am not paying it any longer. I will learn the "tricks of the trade" and start making my phone calls gratis over the internet. The phone companies can pound salt for all I care. In this day and world, there is no reason why people should have to pay to communicate. Let the govt pay for it. They have enough to start wars with peaceful nations!

Because this practice is tolerated by the FCC, long distance and wireless phone companies are able to hide the true cost of service. These add-ons make the advertised price of service significantly less than the amount of the check I have to write each month to pay the bill. Competition will not work if consumers cannot accurately compare prices when shopping for service.

Many states are stepping up to address this problem. They should be allowed to proceed. However, the FCC shouldn't shirk its responsibility, nor limit states from doing more.

The FCC should immediately grant the NASUCA petition to investigate billing practices, and prohibit phone and wireless companies from imposing separate monthly fees, line items or surcharges unless expressly mandated by law or the charge is expressly authorized by a governmental authority.